

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PEKING 02073 250308Z

73

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AGR-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

EB-07 FRB-01 H-01 INR-05 INT-05 L-02 LAB-01 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15 STR-01

TAR-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01 SWF-01

NSCE-00 /080 W

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R 250300Z NOV 74

FM USLO PEKING

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2783

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, PROP, US, CH

SUBJECT: VOA AND SINO-US TRADE

REF: A. PEKING 1883; B. HONG KONG 12708

1. WE NOTE EMPHASIS ON US-CHINA TRADE IN SULLIVAN BACKGROUND REPORT ON SECRETARY'S FORTHCOMING VISIT WHICH BROADCAST VOA NOVEMBER 25. IN VIEW OF PROBLEMS IN THIS TRADE WHICH HAVE DEVELOPED, LIKHOOD THAT TRADE THIS YEAR WILL FALL BELOW EARLIER PREDICTIONS, AND EXPECTATION OF DECLINE NEXT YEAR, WE DO NOT BELIEVE THAT US-CHINA TRADE FIGURES SHOULD BE SO HEAVILY STRESSED IN USG MEDIA REPORTS AS AN INDICATION OF BILATERAL TRENDS.

2. PREDICTIONS ARE ALWAYS DIFFICULT, BUT THIS YEAR US EXPORTS MAY FALL SEVERAL MILLION BELOW ORIGINAL PROJECTIONS (REF B). BASED ON PRESENT INFORMATION, WE WOULD ANTICIPATE A DROP IN US SHIPMENTS TO CHINA NEXT YEAR, AS COMPARED WITH 1974, OF PERHAPS 35 TO 50 PERCENT. IN ADDITION, ALTHOUGH US PURCHASES AT THE RECENT CANTON FAIR WERE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 PEKING 02073 250308Z

UP SHARPLY, SPRING FAIR PURCHASES WERE NOT HIGH, AND THE POSSIBILITY

EXISTS THAT US IMPORTS FROM CHINA NEXT YEAR WILL SHOW NO GROWTH OR
MAY EVEN DECLINE.
BUSH

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NNN

Message Attributes

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